

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application. Claims 1-8 and 16-20 are allowed. The Examiner has rejected claims 9 and 14 and has objected to Claims 10-13 and 15.

Claims 9 and 14 are rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Granger (US Patent No. 5,463,720).

Claim 9 has been amended to more specifically point out that the aperiodic cell format is a non-random aperiodic cell format. The aperiodicity referred to by Granger is a random, blue noise function used to select one of sixteen positions from a base position of a halftone dot. Blue noise is random, unlike the aperiodic format of the instant invention as claimed. See column 37, line 66, "While use of this matrix to *randomize* this font..."

It is therefore submitted that claim 9, as amended, is patentably distinguishable over the prior art and allowance of all claims is requested.

Claims 10-13 and 15 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In light of the amendment to claim 9, from which these claims depend, it is submitted that these claims now depend from an allowable base claim and should be ruled allowable.


Similarly, claim 14 depends from claim 9 and should be ruled allowable for that reason and for its own merits. For the reasons discussed above, Granger does not show, teach, nor suggest the use of an aperiodic, non-random cell format as in claim 9, much less in conjunction with a printer description language. It is therefore submitted that claim 14 is patentably distinguishable over the prior art and allowance of this claim is requested.

Minor, typographical amendments were made to claims 1 and 16, which should not affect their status as allowed claims.

No new matter has been added by this amendment. Allowance of all claims is requested. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

Respectfully submitted,

MARGER JOHNSON & McCOLLOM, P.C.



Julie L. Reed
Reg. No. 35,349

MARGER JOHNSON & McCOLLOM, P.C.
1030 SW Morrison Street
Portland, OR 97205
(503) 222-3613
Customer No. 20575